PROJECT TITLE	:	COMPUTER AND INSTRUMENTATION SUPPORT GROUP
PERIOD COVERED	:	23 DECEMBER 1981 - 22 JANUARY 198
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Automation of the Smoking Laboratory (Project COLDAC)

An interactive inquiry programme, written in the "QUERY" language (IMAGE software) (1), has been developed by our group and it permits selective access to the different analytical results. This programme is currently working on the data base model which is used for various simulation work. The inquiries tested at the present time are performed via about one hundred menus, each comprising eight selective function keys. Detailed information relating to each key appears on the screen when it is used. These menus serve as a simple and efficient interface between the operator and the data base, which in turn enables the following work to be performed :

- To obtain a complete report on a given sample on the screen;
- To acquire a detailed list showing the state of any analyses in progress in the laboratory;
- To correct any of the results contained in the data base;
- To delete any analytical data of a group of samples;
- To analyse in detail the structure and capacity of the data base;
- To prepare backup copies on magnetic tape;
- To produce simple graphs for routine checking of certain types of cigarettes.

This first inquiry and key-function access model will permit us to reach the following objectives :

- To ensure that the various users become familiar with the concept of a data base;
- To ensure that the operators become familiar with the terminals;
- To check the validity of the statements in the various specification lists;
- To define more precisely the final structure of the data base;
- To check the access logic requested by the various users.

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Training Courses (Project COLDAC)

A one-day introduction course on the concept of the data base and the use of HP 3075 data capture terminals has been organized for the end of January 1982 for future users.

Hewlett-Packard will also give some courses, which are more specialized, in February 1982. These will treat acquisition problems in real time and they will complete the training of the various members of the Computer and Instrumentation Support Group.

By the end of the period covered by this report, we had received all the specification list drafts which normally should have reached us by the beginning of December 1981.

1. Thévoz-M. Monthly Report pp 47-48 (October 1981)

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